



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Highlights for April 6, 2009

For More Information:

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COUNCIL CONSIDERS SUBSCRIPTION-BASED YARD WASTE SERVICE: President Pro Tem [Hearcel F. Craig](#) is bringing forth *ordinance 0486-2009* for City Council to consider accepting the Department of Public Service's proposal to contract with Rumpke of Ohio, Inc. for a weekly, subscription-based yard waste collection program. The one-year contract includes two six-month cycles. The first cycle may commence after April 20, 2009 and the second cycle will commence on October 20, 2009 through April of 2010. Citizens wishing to subscribe would be required to pay a flat fee of \$49.50 to Rumpke for each six-month cycle. Subscriptions are not prorated, but allow the user to place up to 15 bags for pickup each week.

STIMULUS DOLLARS HELPING KEEP COLUMBUS SAFE: Public Safety Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#) is taking the formal action required to accept the \$4,209,588 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) that helped ensure the graduates of the most recent Columbus Police recruit class are in full uniform working to protect the citizens of Columbus. *Ordinance 0471-2009* will authorize Columbus to accept a memorandum of understanding and inter-local agreement with Franklin County. Along with funding the recruit class, the JAG resources will be applied towards Community Crime Patrol, the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) maintenance contract, finger printing at the Municipal Court, a forensic scientist for DNA testing, and an arraignment advocate for domestic violence cases.

SUPPORT FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES: The arts remain a critical component of the Columbus economy and each year the non-profit Greater Columbus Arts Council (GCAC) is authorized to administer City Council's funding of the arts community. Administration Committee Chair [A. Troy Miller](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0246-2009* to allocate up to \$3,940,000 from the hotel/motel excise tax fund for "the purpose of expanding cultural services for the enrichment of the community" [Section 371.02 (c) of the Columbus City Codes]. City Council believes that this mission is best achieved by using the funds to support a broad array of programs, including, but not limited to: fine arts exhibits, concerts, festivals, city park activities, vocational opportunities, and other programs for the visual and performing arts, including those provided by both professional and amateur artists, and public art. Councilmember Priscilla R. Tyson is co-sponsoring this legislation.



PALEY PROTECTING WETLANDS: Hellbranch Run, a major tributary to Big Darby Creek, remains a top conservation priority. Utilities Committee Chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#) is sponsoring legislation to help keep this potentially vulnerable habitat a source of civic pride for generations to come. *Ordinance 0344-2009* authorizes an environmental covenant for the purpose of implementing activity and use limitations for the mitigation wetlands created by Columbus in accordance with the Clean Water Act.

TAVARES WORKING TO INCREASE HIV TESTING ACCESSIBILITY: The Columbus Health Department provides HIV/AIDS testing for patients at the STD Clinic and HIV Counseling and Testing Site. Health, Housing & Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0440-2009*, to authorize the expenditure of \$1,500 for rapid HIV antibody detection test kits. This test is highly accurate and provides results in 20 minutes. The Health Department recommends that the rapid HIV test be used to better ensure that patients receive their results in a timely manner.

SUPPORTING AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING: The *Capital Kids* program provides Columbus City School students from low- and moderate-income families with after-school programming that instills a sense of self-worth, academic ability and community responsibility in Columbus youth. Recreation and Parks Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0413-2009* to authorize the expenditure of \$354,000 to continue funding the program. Capital Kids programming provides academic assistance, enrichment activities, prevention units, recreational activities, socialization, strong family involvement, and nutritional food services.

MENTEL TO PARTICIPATE IN YOM HASHOAH OBSERVANCE: Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) will provide welcoming remarks for the City of Columbus' 24th annual Yom Hashoah Observance and Holocaust Remembrance Day. The observance to commemorate all who perished in the Holocaust is being held in *City Council Chambers at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 17, 2009.* Keynote speakers will be John Koenigsburg, a Holocaust survivor who resides in Columbus, and Kasa Bayason, an OSU exchange student who fled the violence in Ethiopia to resettle in Israel. For more information, please contact the [Community Relations Commission](#) or the [Columbus Jewish Federation](#).